## MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 1997, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Council members Cribbs, Lee, Messerlian, Nakano, O'Donnell,

Walker, and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Attorney Fellows, City Manager Jackson

City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

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At this time Agenda Item Nos. 18a and 20 were considered out of order.

## 18a. ADDITION OF URGENCY ITEMS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA

City Attorney Fellows requested that the Council, by two-thirds vote, consider adding the following urgency items to tonight's closed session, recognizing that the need to discuss the matters arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda:

- 1) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL EXISTING LITIGATION (California Government Code 54956.9 (a)
  - a) Rose Elliott v. City of Torrance
    USDC Case No. CV96-8557 WDK (BQRx)
  - b) Ortiz v. City of Torrance
    USDC Case No. CV96-4256 LGB (CWX)
- 2) REAL PROPERTY CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (California Government Code 54956.8)

a) Property: 3350 Civic Center Drive

Stanley Remelmeyer Cable Facility

Negotiating Parties: LeRoy Jackson and representative of

**Time Warner Communications** 

Under Negotiations: Terms, conditions, and rent for facilities

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Lee moved to add the above urgency items to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman O'Donnell and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

### 20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:03 p.m., pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a), and 54956.8, the Council recessed into a closed session to confer on the above urgency matters and matters listed on the meeting agenda.

At 7:25 p.m., the Council returned to the Council Chambers. The Council took no formal action on any matter heard in closed session, and the regular meeting reconvened in regular agenda order.

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## 2. **FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Beach Cities Civil Air Patrol Cadet Squad #107.

Pastor Dean Mayeda of Hope Chapel Gateway and Torrance Police Chaplain gave the invocation for the meeting.

### 3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Lee moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs, and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Lee moved that, after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Council member the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs, and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

## 4. WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS

City Manager Jackson requested that Agenda Item No. 7g (Joslyn Center Renovation) be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered under Administrative Matters. Mr. Jackson also noted the addition of Agenda Item No. 18b (H.R. 1534 Recommendation) under Addendum Matters.

## 5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Finance and Governmental Operations Committee

Tuesday, October 21, 1997, 5:30 p.m. Third Floor Assembly Room

Subject: Project Report on the Financial System Project

Councilman Lee advised that the Committee had met and will be reporting to the Council on the Financial System Project soon.

#### **Finance and Governmental Operations Committee**

Tuesday, November 4, 1997, 5:30 p.m.

West Wing Commission Room

Subject: 1st Quarter Budget Review

#### **Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee**

Joint Meeting with Torrance Unified School District (TUSD)

Wednesday, October 22, 1997, 5:00 p.m.

TUSD - 2335 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance

Subject: Weekend use of facilities, Coordinated Youth Services Task Force

update, noise abatement at Towers Elementary School

## **Ad Hoc Armed Forces Day Committee**

Tuesday, November 18, 1997, 5:30 p.m.

Council Conference Room

Subject: 1998 Armed Forces Day Parade

Mayor Hardison noted supplemental material available in connection with Agenda Item Nos. 7g/13d (Joslyn Center Renovation) and 9a (Striping Plan for Maple Avenue and 235th Street).

## 6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

#### 6a. **RESOLUTION NO. 97-136 HONORING VICTOR ORDAZ**

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 97-136**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING VICTOR ORDAZ UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER 44 YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 97-136. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Hardison presented the resolution to Mr. Victor Ordaz recognizing his 44 years of invaluable service to the City.

#### 6b. PROCLAMATION RE "FOCUS ON DISABILITIES DAY"

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Saturday, October 25, 1997, as "Focus on Disabilities Day" in the City of Torrance to Mr. Paul Nowatka, Chairman of the Community Services Commission. Mr. Nowatka, along with fellow Commissioners,

invited disabled residents and their caregivers to the Open House at the Cultural Arts Center Community Meeting Hall on October 25.

## 6c. PROCLAMATION RE "RED RIBBON WEEK"

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the week of October 23-31, 1997, as "Red Ribbon Week" in the City of Torrance to Ms. Janice Sawyer, President of the Torrance Council of PTAs; Ms. Andrea Ballas, 3rd Vice President of the Torrance Council of PTAs; and Officer Dave Crespin of the Torrance Police Department. Officer Crespin explained the origin of Red Ribbon Week and emphasized the Torrance Police Department's commitment to the fight against drugs. Ms. Ballas thanked the City for promoting community awareness of this event.

### 6d. PROCLAMATION RE "AMERICAN HEART WALK DAY"

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Saturday, October 25, 1997, as "American Heart Walk Day" in the City of Torrance to Ms. Lyn Flory, Chair of the Beach Cities Branch of the American Heart Association. Ms. Flory invited residents to participate in a walk benefiting the American Heart Association to be held on October 25 in Manhattan Beach.

#### 6e. PROCLAMATION RE "MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY"

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Saturday, October 25, 1997, as "Make a Difference Day" in the City of Torrance to Ms. Olivia Lopez, Management Assistant of the City Manager's Office (City-wide Volunteer Coordinator). Ms. Lopez invited residents to participate in a clean-up of City parks (Wilson, Columbia, Torrance, and El Nido) on October 25.

## 7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### 7a. **1998 AIR FAIR**

Considered separately, see page 6.

# 7b. <u>LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH RAILROAD COMPANY FOR CRENSHAW</u> <u>BOULEVARD REHABILITATION NORTH OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD</u>

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and attest to a license with the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) to permit installation of an underground conduit in conjunction with the rehabilitation of Crenshaw Boulevard from south of 190th Street to south of Dominguez Street.

#### 7c. SAMOAN TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (STEP)

#### Recommendation

It is the joint recommendation of the Carson/Lomita/Torrance PIC and the Human Resources Director of the City of Torrance that City Council authorize the Carson/Lomita/Torrance PIC to continue the operation of a Samoan Training and

Employment Program (STEP) during fiscal year 1997-98, and authorize the acceptance of funding (\$375.000) from the Department of Labor for the fiscal year 1997-98 STEP Program.

## 7d. JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT (JTPA) FUNDING

#### Recommendation

It is the joint recommendation of the Carson/Lomita/Torrance PIC and the Human Resources Director of the City of Torrance that City Council authorize increases of \$150,000 each to the agreements with Larson Training Centers, Inc. (C97-006), The Right Way Computer Training (C97-170). Harbor Medical College (C96-111), and Novaquest (C97-009).

#### 7e. SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD/VINE STREET SOUND WALL PROJECT

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Street Services Director and City Manager that City Council appropriate \$7,400 from unappropriated Gas Tax funds for the removal of 55 feet of sound wall on Sepulveda Boulevard and the construction of a slump stone wall to enclose the residential corner of Sepulveda Way and Vine Street.

## 7f. PURCHASE ORDER RE AMIE AVENUE RETENTION BASIN

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Street Services Director that City Council approve an appropriation in the amount of \$46,573.53 from the Economic Anomaly Reserve account, and award a Purchase Order to Rain for Rent Company for a four-month rental (Nov-Feb) of a 10" water pump and pipeline needed at the Amie Avenue Retention Basin in preparation for the predicted wet season.

#### 7g. JOSLYN CENTER RENOVATION

Removed from Consent Calendar and considered under Administrative Matters, see 13d page 10-11.

## 7h. ACQUISITION OF BICYCLE LOCKERS AND BICYCLE RACKS

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Planning Director that City Council:

- (1) receive and accept the bid from American Bicycle Security for bicycle lockers;
- (2) receive and accept the bid from Seating Component Manufacturing for bicycle racks;
- (3) authorize staff to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$40,000 for bicycle lockers; and
- (4) authorize staff to issue a purchase order for the amount of \$5,000 for bicycle racks.

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilwoman O'Donnell moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 7b, 7c, 7d. 7e, 7f, and 7h. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 7a was considered separately.

#### 7a. **1998 AIR FAIR**

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Airport Commission that City Council approve the Torrance Air Fair Association (TAFA) as the sole sponsor for the 1998 Air Fair. If the City Council concurs and approves the Air Fair Agreement, and the \$15,000 needed to help produce the Air Fair, the event will be held on July 11 and 12, 1998.

Councilwoman Cribbs questioned whether the problem of unauthorized flights for hire had been addressed in the Air Fair Agreement. Airport Manager Hriz advised that the unauthorized helicopter rides at the 1997 Air Fair, and the resultant problems, occurred after the fair was over; and stated that steps have been taken to ensure it will not happen again.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Cribbs moved to concur with the Airport Commission's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by unanimous voice vote.

## 9. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS

## 9a. APPROVAL OF MAPLE AVENUE/235TH STREET STRIPING PLAN

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Planning Department that City Council:

- (1) receive information regarding the proposed modified striping plan for Maple Avenue and 235th Street;
- (2) hear all input regarding the proposed modified striping plan; and
- (3) authorize staff to proceed with the proposed striping plan as part of the ongoing rehabilitation project.

Transportation Planner Buchman presented the staff report (per written material of record); noted supplemental material available at the meeting; and introduced Mr. Abbas Mohaddes, of Meyer, Mohaddes Associates, Inc., a traffic engineering consultant for the City. In a slide presentation, Mr. Mohaddes outlined the specifics of the proposed plan to change the current four-lane configuration on Maple Avenue/ 235th Street to three lanes, and noted that similar reconfigurations in surrounding communities have been effective in decreasing vehicular speeds and reducing accidents.

Mayor Hardison expressed her long-standing concern about the blind curve going south on Maple at the alleyway near Felbar, and Mr. Mohaddes assured her that was taken into account when the three-lane plan was devised.

Ms. Jeanette Pierson, representing New Horizons, voiced support for the plan and requested left-turn pockets into and out of the complex and a "no parking zone" on

the west side of Maple where parked vehicles block the view of motorists entering the roadway from side streets and driveways.

Ms. Eileen Rivet, 22627A Maple Avenue, suggested that a "Hidden Driveway" sign replacing the "T Intersection" sign near New Horizon's Access No. 2 on Maple might be more effective since the current sign does little to slow motorists.

- Mr. Robert Smith, 2967 W. 226th Street, concurred with the proposed plan; requested red curbing at the northeast corner of Maple and 226th Street so that Hickory School traffic turning right onto Maple won't be obstructed; and stated that employees of a nearby rest home are parking on 226th, leaving no parking for residents.
- Mr. Eugene Turner, 23216 Juniper Avenue, spoke in opposition to the plan, stating his belief that Maple Avenue/235th Street, although classified as a collector street, has become a minor arterial, and should be utilized as such.
- Mr. Arnold Katz, 23317 Iris Avenue, stated that the three-lane plan is dangerous when there is parallel parking on both sides of the street, and objected to the right-turn only lane at Maple and Sepulveda.
- Mr. Bill Bosnyak, 2609 W. 235th Street, stated that regardless of how the street is striped, speeding will continue to be a problem since the street has not been radar surveyed and, therefore, the speed limits are not enforceable.

Police Chief Herren confirmed that Maple/235th Street has not been surveyed, and explained that surveying may have the undesired effect of requiring speed limits to be raised unless conditions such as pedestrian traffic and proximity to schools are factored into the equation. City Manager Jackson agreed to explore the possibility of radar surveying, but suggested that it be done after the proposed three-lane restriping is completed.

In response to Ms. Pierson, Transportation Planner Buchman provided information regarding the location of left-turn pockets and no parking zones in the New Horizons area and advised that modifications can be made as conditions warrant.

Mr. Mohaddes stated that Mr. Katz's concern about parallel parking was a valid one, and pointed out that the plan calls for the parking lane to be considerably widened to accommodate opening car doors and vehicles backing into parking spaces, thereby reducing the chance of conflict with vehicles in the traffic lanes.

Mayor Hardison noted that most of the unresolved issues concern signage, parking restrictions and left-turn access, and suggested that striping proceed while these issues are evaluated by staff.

Councilman Walker commended staff for an excellent job and stated that, although traffic may not be significantly slowed, the new configuration will be considerably safer. Councilwoman O'Donnell commended staff for their thorough report, and Councilman Nakano also voiced support for the three-lane plan.

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Walker moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed unanimous roll call vote.

## 11. PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

#### 11a. PURCHASE OF SARTORI AVENUE PROPERTY

Considered jointly with 4a (Purchase and Sale Agreement of Sartori Property) on the Redevelopment Agency Agenda during the Redevelopment Agency Meeting, see page 12.

## 13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

#### 13a. NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES DELEGATE

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council designate a delegate and an alternate to attend the National League of Cities to be held December 2-6, 1997 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Hardison noted that Councilman Walker is the only Council member attending the National League of Cities annual congress.

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Messerlian moved that Councilman Walker be designated as the City's delegate at the National League of Cities. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman O'Donnell and passed by unanimous voice vote.

### 13b. SALE OF UNDEVELOPED ACCESS WAY TO TORRANCE BEACH

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the sale of an undeveloped ten-foot-wide beach access way located between 445 and 449 Paseo de la Playa by first offering the land for sale to adjacent property owners for at least 80% of the appraised value.

Deputy City Attorney Whitham presented the staff report (per written material of record).

Ms. Shirley Turner, 23216 Juniper Avenue, read a letter from the Palos Verdes/ South Bay Audubon Society, dated October 20,1997, into the record. The letter stated that the land in question is a vital refuge for the El Segundo blue butterfly, and requested that the decision on the sale of the property be postponed until all factors can be evaluated.

Mr. Roger Bacon, 445 Paseo de la Playa, offered some historical information about the property; stated that he currently maintains the area, and intends to preserve the habitat if he purchases the property; and noted that the area is extremely unstable and not suitable for development. Mr. Bacon read a letter from his neighbor, Mr. Lou Schreiber, 449 Paseo de la Playa, supporting the sale of the land to adjacent property owners.

Mr. Dan Cook, 504 Paseo de la Playa, questioned why homeowners in the area weren't notified about this matter and voiced support for the proposed resolution.

In response to Council members' questions, City Attorney Fellows stated that under the terms of the 1973 agreement, since the State has declined to purchase the property, the City has no other choice than to offer it to adjacent property owners. Mr. Fellows advised that this action extinguishes the State's right to require that an access be constructed in the future.

#### **RESOLUTION NO 97-140**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPRAISAL AND SALE OF AN UNDEVELOPED TEN-FOOT WIDE STRIP OF LAND LOCATED BETWEEN 445 AND 449 PASEO DE LA PLAYA, BY OFFERING THE LAND FOR SALE TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 97-140. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### 13c. **GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

#### Recommendation

- It is the recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council adopt three resolutions:
- (1) calling and giving notice of the holding of a General Municipal Election to be held in the City on Tuesday, March 3, 1998, for the Election of Certain Officers of the City as required by provisions of the charter;
- (2) requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles to render specified services to the City relating to the conduct of the General Municipal Election, and:
- (3) adopting candidate regulations for the election.

City Clerk Herbers presented the staff report (per written material of record).

Noting that California voters had approved an "English only" proposition several years ago, Councilwoman O'Donnell questioned why the City was spending time and money printing a municipal ballot in Spanish.

City Clerk Herbers advised that the ballot is not printed in Spanish, but a translation must be available upon request pursuant to the National Voting Rights Act. Councilwoman O'Donnell found it puzzling, in view of the City's ethnic diversity, that Spanish is the only required translation. Ms. Herbers confirmed that under current regulations that is the requirement.

In response to Mayor Hardison, Ms. Herbers stated that a map showing the boundaries of the recently redrawn and consolidated Torrance precincts will be available within the next few days.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 97-137**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CALLING AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1998, FOR THE ELECTION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS OF THE CITY AS REQUIRED BY PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 97-137. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 97-138**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO RENDER SPECIFIED SERVICES TO THE CITY RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1998

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 97-138. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 97-139**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING REGULATIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE PERTAINING TO CANDIDATE STATEMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1998

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 97-139. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by a 6-1 majority roll call vote, with Councilwoman O'Donnell dissenting.

Councilwoman O'Donnell stated that she was opposed to Resolution No. 97-138 because it requires Spanish translation of candidates' statements, and she believes if translations are provided, they should be available for everyone who needs them. She further stated that she strongly disapproves of ballots and ballot information being printed in anything other than English since language is an important, unifying factor.

## 7g. **JOSLYN CENTER RENOVATION**

Item Heard out of order

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council concur with the recommendation of the Cultural Arts Commission to give top priority to the renovation of the Joslyn Center when considering the Capital Improvement Budget.

#### **Finance Director Note:**

In March 1998, Staff will bring forward a comprehensive capital budget which will include infrastructure, automation, Recreation, and Safety projects. The cost for this project is estimated at \$140,000. It is the recommendation of the Finance Director that this item be prioritized as part of the above process.

Councilman Lee stated that although he agrees that the Joslyn Center needs work, it can not be given top priority without first reviewing the Capital Improvement Budget, which will be available in March of '98. Councilman Walker commented that under no circumstances would the Joslyn Center renovation be placed ahead of Police and Fire Department projects, and concurred with Councilman Lee that it's impossible to prioritize until the budget for capital projects is submitted. Noting that limited funds are available to meet all the needs of the community, Mayor Hardison invited the Cultural Arts Commission to bring this project to the Council's attention in March.

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Lee moved that the Council not concur with the Cultural Arts Commission's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

## 16. **SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

#### 16a. **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 3440**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3440** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 13510(C) AND 13512 OF THE CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE RELATING TO THE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilman Nakano moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 3440. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### 18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

## 18a. ADDITION OF URGENCY ITEMS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA

Considered out of order, see page 1.

#### 18b. **RECOMMENDATION TO OPPOSE H.R. 1534**

Mayor Hardison stated that the Planning Department staff had requested that the Council, by two-thirds vote, consider adding certain pending legislation, H.R. 1534, to tonight's agenda, recognizing that the need to discuss the matters arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved to add the above urgency item to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **Recommendation**

It is the recommendation of the Planning Director that City Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter opposing H.R. 1534 to our United States Congressional and Senate Representatives.

Principal Planner Bluman presented the staff report (per written material of record).

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilwoman O'Donnell moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

At 9:34 p.m. the City Council met jointly as the Torrance Redevelopment Agency.

Agenda Item 11a was considered jointly with Redevelopment Agenda Item 4a.

## 11a. PURCHASE OF 1256 SARTORI AVENUE

#### Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Redevelopment Agency staff that City Council approve a \$150,000 loan from the General Fund Redevelopment Activities Reserve Fund to the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) for the purposes of purchasing the property located at 1256 Sartori Avenue, Torrance, California.

Councilman Lee announced that because his business is within 300 feet of the subject property, on the advice of the City Attorney, he was abstaining from consideration of this matter.

Senior Principal Planner Bihn presented the staff report (per written material of record).

<u>MOTION:</u> Councilwoman Cribbs moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Councilman Lee abstaining.

The meeting of the Redevelopment Agency was adjourned at 9:36 p.m., and consideration of regular Council business was resumed.

## 19. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

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- 19a. City Manager Jackson shared information with the Council regarding storm control efforts being made by the City including availability of sandbags.
- 19b. Councilwoman Cribbs requested on update on the progress of the Park and Ride at Prairie and Artesia.
- 19c. Councilman Lee noted a memo from the Streetscape Team and commended their good progress.
- 19d. Councilman Lee voiced concerns about the approval of Home Depot's Christmas tree lot, citing parking problems.
- 19e. Councilman Lee commented on the blight of political signs on private property without permission.
- 19f. Councilman Messerlian agreed with Councilman Lee on the Home Depot Christmas tree lot.
- 19g. Councilman Messerlian questioned Fire Chief Adams on a recent Gas Company brochure on gas shutoff devices.
- 19h. Councilman Messerlian asked Police Chief Herren about the possibility of inserting information into water bills about crime prevention during the holiday season.
- 19i. Councilman Messerlian queried Planning Director Ferren on the status of a petition from residents on Madison/Sepulveda/Lomita.
- 19j. Councilman Messerlian requested a status report of other projects, including the gym at Wilson Park, the Property Maintenance ordinance, the signal at 164th and Van Ness, the Natural History Center at Madrona Marsh and the coffee cart at the Library.
- 19k. Councilman Nakano was updated by Parks & Recreation Director Barnett on the progress of a traffic signal at Jefferson and Crenshaw.
- 19I. Councilwoman O'Donnell questioned Police Chief Herren about a recent seat belt safety program.
- 19m. Mr. Howard Schneider, 2320 W. 233rd Street, requested that action be taken to correct drainage problems in the 2300 block of 233rd Street.

#### 20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered out of order, see page 2.

#### 21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:55 p.m., the meeting of the City Council was adjourned to Tuesday, October 28, 1997, 5:30 p.m., to conduct an Executive Session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.